

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of initiating a bid transaction by an auction buyer, the method including the steps of:

providing the auction buyer with a printed bidding form including printed coded data identifying a form identity and a plurality of locations on the bidding form;

interacting with a zone of the printed form containing the coded data using an optically imaging pen, said zone being associated with a parameter of the bid transaction;

generating, in the pen, data regarding the identity of the bidding form, ~~the identity of the auction buyer,~~ and at least one location within said zone using at least coded data sensed by the pen;

transmitting the data, together with data regarding the identity of the auction buyer, from the pen to a computer system, such that the computer system can identify, from said data, the identity of the bidding form, the identity of the auction buyer, and the parameter of the bid transaction, and thereby initiate the bid transaction;

wherein said data regarding the identity of the auction buyer is a unique pen identifier contained in said pen, said pen identifier being associated with the identity of the auction buyer in the computer system.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~2-1~~ in which the parameter is an action parameter of the bid transaction, the method including initiating, in the computer system, an operation in respect of the action parameter.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 in which the action parameter of the bid transaction is selected from the group comprising:

requesting the subcategories contained in an auction category, requesting the auction listings contained in an auction subcategory, searching auction listings, requesting the details of an auction item listing, sending e-mail to the seller of an item, requesting a bid history related to an item, requesting a list of leading bidders related to an item, and placing a bid.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 in which the parameter is an option parameter of the bid transaction, the method including initiating, in the computer system, an operation associated with the option parameter.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 in which the option parameter is associated with at least one of:

requesting the subcategories contained in an auction category, requesting the auction listings contained in an auction subcategory, searching auction listings, requesting the details of an auction item listing, sending e-mail to the seller of an item, requesting a bid history related to an item, requesting a list of leading bidders related to an item, placing a bid, a search results limit, and a search category specification.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 in which the parameter is a text parameter of the bid transaction, the method including initiating, in the computer system, an operation associated with the text parameter.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 which includes converting, in the computer system, handwritten text data to computer text.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 in which the text parameter is associated with at least one of:

a name of the auction buyer, auction item search text, and a bid amount.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 in which the parameter is an authorization parameter of the bid transaction, the method including initiating, in the computer system, an operation associated with the authorization parameter.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 which includes verifying, in the computer system, that a handwritten signature is that of the auction buyer.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 in which the authorization parameter is associated with authorization of at least one of:

placing a bid, and payment for a successful bid.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 in which the parameter is a picture parameter of the bid transaction, the method including initiating, in the computer system, an operation associated with the picture parameter.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 in which the picture parameter is associated with a picture of a listed item.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the form contains information relating to at least one of:

terms of an item auction, a description of an item being listed for auction, categories in which an item can be listed, subcategories in which an item can be listed, a number of items in a subcategory, a title of an item listing, and an identification number of a listed item.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~17~~1 which includes printing the form on a surface and, at the same time that the form is printed, printing the coded data on the surface.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 which includes printing the coded data to be substantially invisible in the visible spectrum.

20. (Original) The method of claim 1 which includes retaining a retrievable record of each form generated, the form being retrievable using its identity as contained in its coded data.

21-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A system for initiating a bid transaction by an auction buyer, the system including

a printed bidding form including printed coded data identifying a form identity and a plurality of locations on the bidding form;

an optically imaging pen configured for:

interacting with a zone of the form containing the coded data, said zone being associated with a parameter of the bid transaction;

generating data regarding the identity of the form; ~~the identity of the auction buyer;~~ and at least one location within said zone; and

transmitting the data together with data regarding the identity of the auction buyer, from the pen to a computer system,

a computer system configured for:

-receiving the data transmitted from the pen;

identifying, from said data, the identity of the bidding form, the identity of the auction buyer, and the parameter of the bid transaction; and

initiating the bid transaction,

wherein said data regarding the identity of the auction buyer is a unique pen identifier contained in said pen, said pen identifier being associated with the identity of the auction buyer in the computer system.-

25-38. (Cancelled)